(d) the future plan for cable ducting in these cities;

(e) whether cable ducting programme has been stopped in Calcutta; and

(f) if so, the reasons therefor and by when the same is likely to be taken up again?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATION (SHRI BENI PRASAD VERMA): (a) to (d): Reply is given in the Staement (*See* below)

(e) No, Sir.

(f) Do not arise in vies of (e) above.

Statement

Annexure

Regarding Cable ducting in Metropolitan Cities

	Bombay	Delhi	Calcutta	Madras
	752 Kms	605 Kms	241 Kms	191 Kms
1993-94	20 Kms	15 Kms	28 Kms	14 Kms
1994-95	80 Kms	71 Kms	22 Kms	31 Kms
1995-96	130 Kms	76 Kms	3 Kms	21 Kms
No separate funds allotted.				
	100 Kms	100 Kms	40 Kms	25 Kms

Loss Suffered by Cochin Shipyard

*295. SHRI O. RAJAGOPAL: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Cochin Shipyard had approved a proposal to enter into a contract with M/s. ABB, Sweden in November, 1993, to revamp 150 T Gantry Crane which was subsequently cancelled;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor and the contractual amount approved in that regard;

(c) whether it is also a fact that the Cochin Shipyard re-tendered the contract and entered into a contract with M/s ABB, Sweden for revamping of 150 T Gantry Crane;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor and the contractual amount settled for this contract; and

(e) whether there has been any loss suffered by the Cochin Shipyard in this process; if so, the amount thereof?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI T.G. VENKATRAMAN): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d): No, Sir. The Cohin Shipyard Ltd. did not re-tender the contract nor did it enter into any contract with M/s ABB, Sweden. However, as the 150 T Gantry Crane installed in the Shipyard in 1979 required replacement of its control system, open tenders were invited and order placed on M/s ABB, India after following the laid down tendering procedure. The contract was placed for Rs. 105 lakhs.

(e) No, Sir. There has been no loss on this contract.

US Mediation to Solve Kashmir Dispute

*296. SHRI BHUPINDER SINGH MANN: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the steps taken so far by